

MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

WOODS HOLE . MASSACHUSETTS . 02543 . (617)

FEB 26 1979

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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February 22, 1979

Dr. Kenneth S. Warren

Director Health Sciences

The Rockefeller Foundation

1133 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036

Dear Ken:

On the 17th February, 1979, the MBL Board of Trustees came together in Woods Hole for their annual winter meeting. Much of that long day was spent in discussion of a comprehensive report on MBL operations and space utilization. The report included what amounts to the first long-term plan the Laboratory has ever had. Among the several initiatives included for specific consideration by the Trustees was the proposed course and associated programs of research in basic science relevant to the Great Neglected Diseases. I'm happy to report that my lengthy proposal was adopted by the Board without dissent, and that their commitment to bring the plans to fruition is as firm and as general as the vote indicates. This means that, so far as the MBL is concerned, we are fully authorized to get on with organization and funding.

You may wish, at some future time, to read the entire report provided to the Trustees. I can't imagine that you would have time to do it just for fun: it is about eighty (closely reasoned!) pages long. I'm keeping a copy for you nevertheless. If you'd like to see it before our scheduled meetings, please let me know.

Cordially,

Paul R. Gross

PRG/mm

xc: Dr. Joshua Lederberg